

Celebrate Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Nathan E. Smedley, of 104 Dudley Ave., Narberth, will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary March 22. Residents of Narberth for the past 43 years, the couple will entertain their friends that day at an open house at their home. Their relatives who plan to be present at the festivities include two sons, Elwood Q., of 2022 Belvedere Rd., Oakmont, and Dr. R. D. Smedley, of York, Pa.; four granddaughters and three great-grandsons.

Firm U. S. Policy in Europe Needed, Community Club Hears

The United States must adopt a firm policy in its relations with European countries, Dr. Newton Bell told members and guests of the Women's Community Club of Narberth Tuesday night.

"We would be amazed at the results if such a course were undertaken," he declared.

Dr. Bell, free lance reporter and veteran of both World Wars, spoke at the club's annual Men's Night Dinner held in the Bala-Cynwyd Woman's Club house, introduced by Mrs. Ellsworth Clark, president of the club, he presented a resume of the political problems involved in re-establishing governments in the war-torn countries.

Guest of honor at the dinner was Mrs. J. Stewart Williams, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs.

In charge of preparations for the dinner were Mrs. Fred Eisenberg, chairman of the hospitality committee, and Mrs. William Lakeman, chairman of the conservation and

OffStreetParking Housing Problem May Be Required May Result From In Lower Merion GOP Convention

Commissioners introduce Tentative Ordinance; Hearing Scheduled

Commissioners on Wednesday night introduced a proposed ordinance to provide off-street parking in Lower Merion Township.

The joint work of a special committee headed by Joseph E. Wright, Pennycod commissioners and the Planning Commission, of which Frank B. Evans is chairman, the ordinance will be discussed with a delegation from the Main Line Builders Association before it is drafted in final form. After that, commissioners will advertise for a public hearing, setting forth the specifications agreed upon by all three bodies.

Commissioners believe the ordinance will be ready for public hearing sometime near the end of April.

Main provisions of the proposed ordinance specify that in the future all business and public structures erected in the township, or any building which is converted to business or public use must provide off-street or open-air parking space, according to a carefully-worked-out ratio.

In the list of structures was included multiple dwellings such as apartment houses, hotels, tourist homes, theatres, auditoriums or stadiums, any other place of public or private assemblage, restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, wholesale establishments, industrial manufacturing buildings, public garages and gas stations, hospitals and sanitariums and other commercial buildings or structures.

Included, at first, were schools and churches, but commissioners questioned the inclusion of these two categories, and a final decision will be made only after further study.

Parking provisions will be based on two factors: one, the number of square feet in a building, such as a store or commercial establishment, and two, the number of seats, as in an auditorium or stadium.

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Suburban Residents Are Urged to Cooperate With Auxiliary Housing Div.

Homes, apartments and rooms in Philadelphia and its suburbs will be in demand for the housing of visitors to the Republican National Convention, which opens in Philadelphia, June 21.

An appeal to Main Line residents to cooperate with the Auxiliary Housing Division of the Mayor's Convention Committee was made last week by Chairman Frank C. McGinn, of Bryn Mawr, and Vice-Chairman Mrs. Victor E. Sheron, of Ardmore.

"The Nation-wide fame of Main Line communities makes them attractive to convention visitors," McGinn said. "We have a heavy demand for Main Line houses, apartments and rooms, and gently request residents with available space to list their properties with our Auxiliary Housing Division, 337 Bellevue-Stratford, Listings may be made by calling LOcust-4-3575."

McGinn emphasized the fact that visitors are willing to pay well for suitable accommodations. "Rates will be determined individually," he said.

"Delegates, alternate delegates, Republican Governors and members of the House and Senate, and representatives of the radio, press and television will be adequately cared for in Philadelphia hotels," he said.

"However, there are also State and county political leaders, such as county chairmen, vice-chairmen, county finance chairmen," McGinn said.

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Penn Valley Man Succumbs at 61

Francis J. Sweeney Was Warehouse Official

Solemn Requiem Mass was sung in St. Margaret's Church, Narberth, Tuesday morning for Francis J. Sweeney, of 430 Old Gulph Rd., Penn Valley, who died Friday night in Misericordia Hospital. He was 61.

Associated with the Terminal Warehouse Company, Philadelphia, for 28 years, Mr. Sweeney served as secretary and treasurer of the company for the past 16 years.

He was a member of the Penn Valley Association, St. Margaret's Church, Narberth, the Penn Athletic Club, Downtown Club, Philadelphia Maritime Association, and various warehouse associations. He was graduated from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1912.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Margaret O'Neill Sweeney; two sons, Francis J. Jr., and William O'Neill Sweeney; and a sister, Mrs. Joseph Tracy, of Philadelphia. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Radio was different when Father was a boy. Read "Memories of a Radio Nut" in

THINKING OUT LOUD

The popular column with a Main Line Locale Turn to Page 2

Lower Merion to Build Penn Valley School, New Junior High, Addition in Penn Wynne; Plan Bond Issue to Pay for Big Program

Churches Mark Palm Sunday Holy Week

Special Events, Music, Planned By Local Groups

Good Friday Services Will Be Marked by Solemnity

Main Line residents will mark Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week with services in the churches of their choice.

A Holy Communion service will be held at All Saints Episcopal Church, Wynnewood, Palm Sunday morning, at 8 A. M.

The morning worship service will be held at 11 A. M., with special music by the choir.

A Holy Communion service will be held Monday at 10 A. M.

The Rt. Rev. William P. Remington will conduct a Quiet Day service from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M. Tuesday.

Communion services will be held Wednesday at 10 A. M. and Thursday at 10 A. M. and 8 P. M.

On Good Friday the Rev. J. Clements Kolb, D.D., chaplain of the University of Pennsylvania, will conduct the meditation service from noon to 3 P. M.

Dr. Franklin Duncombe, pastor of the Bala-Cynwyd Methodist Church, will have as his sermon topic for the service Palm Sunday morning "Victory." Music will be provided by the combined church choirs. New members will be received at this service and the sacrament of infant baptism will be administered.

Dr. Milton H. Nichols will be the guest preacher at the broadcast at 430 P. M.

At the service at 8 P. M. the quartet and chorus will present "Gallia," by Gounod. The new High School Chancel Choir, accompanied by the Church Orchestra and the Organ, will also sing.

On Wednesday evening Dr. Duncombe will present a Holy Land travelogue with colored slides.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 8 P. M. Thursday.

On Good Friday, Dr. Duncombe will present meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ with music by the Quartet and Choir at a service from 12 noon to 3 P. M.

The Rev. Robert G. Middleton, pastor of the Baptist Church of the Evangel, Narberth, will have as his sermon topic at the service at 11 A. M., Palm Sunday, "Were You"

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Robert H. Durbin, Retired Advertising Man, Dies at 81; Was Narberth Resident 40 Years



ROBERT HOLMES DURBIN

Robert Holmes Durbin, a resident of Narberth for more than 40 years, died Tuesday night in Presbyterian Hospital.

Mr. Durbin, advertising director of the Strawbridge and Clothier store until his retirement in 1945, observed his 81st birthday last December 8.

Just a little more than a year ago, on February 11, 1947, a community dinner was given for Mr. Durbin and the late Dr. O. J. Snyder in honor of their 80th birthdays.

Mr. Durbin, a native of Brownsville, Pa., began his career as a printer in Pittsburgh and also worked in Altoona before coming to Philadelphia in 1897. He worked with several department stores before coming associated with Strawbridge and Clothier in 1905. He served as advertising manager from 1911 to 1922 and as advertising director from then until his retirement.

Mr. Durbin, whose home was at 301 Windsor Ave., Narberth, was the fifth president of the Poor Richard Club, serving two terms from 1914 to 1916. He was a noted speaker and raconteur and the author of several poems. He was a member of the Goats Club, an organization of advertising executives.

Mr. Durbin is survived by his wife, Mrs. (Continued on Page Four)

Five Narberth Churches Plan Combined Palm Sunday Service

Five churches of Narberth will hold a community service on Palm Sunday at 7:45 P. M. and on Good Friday, from noon until 3 P. M.

These are in addition to individual services listed elsewhere.

At the Palm Sunday service in the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Rev. Robert Lamont, of the Narberth Presbyterian Church, will deliver the message and music will be provided by the choir of the Lutheran Church.

The churches and ministers planning the service include the Narberth Methodist Church, Rev. Harold Flood; the Baptist Church of the Evangel, Rev. Robert Middleton; Narberth Presbyterian Church, Rev. Robert Lamont; All Saints Episcopal Church, Rev. Gibson Bell; and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Rev. Cletus Sent.

The community service on Good Friday will be held in the Methodist Church from 12 noon until 3 P. M.

The Rev. Robert G. Middleton, pastor of the Baptist Church, will bring the message on the First Word. Dr. Frederick L. Pedersen, Associate Secretary of the Section of Church Extension of the Division of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church, will bring the message on the Second Word. The Rev. Cletus A. Sent, pastor of the Lutheran Church, will bring the message on the Third Word. Dr. James McDill, Director of Stewardship for the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church, will bring the message on the Fourth Word. The Rev. Harold D. Flood, pastor of the Methodist Church, will bring the message on the Fifth Word. Dr. J. Harold Mumper, Editor, Parish and Church School Board of the United Lutheran Church in America, will bring the message on the Sixth Word. The Rev. Robert J. Lamont, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, will bring the message on the Seventh Word.

Makes Report



JAMES HENDERSON
Chairman of the Lower Merion School Board public relations committee, who submitted a report on Monday night recommending an approximately two million dollar building program for the school district.

Conditions At The Bala School

Acts After Complaint By Parents Delegation

Lower Merion School Board on Monday night ordered a complete investigation of conditions in the Bala School. Action was taken following the appearance of a delegation of parents who, for the third successive month, complained about administration methods of Robert N. Means, principal of the school.

Charges made by the parents' delegation centered about the dismissal of Mrs. Katherine W. Cary, a teacher in the school, last month and alleged discriminatory actions on the part of the principal.

In addition, Frank A. DuBois, superintendent of schools, and members of the school board were accused of "covering up" for the principal. Spokesmen for the parents said the board had failed to answer letters of complaint regarding the "conditions of fear" under which their children attended school.

W. Ralston Rodgers, a new member of the Board, moved that the matter be referred to committee for investigation, remarking that "there seems to be some diversity of opinion regarding Means' abilities as principal. I feel that if the school board is going to back him up, it should do so only after a thorough investigation, checking his conduct as well as his scholastic ability."

Dr. L. M. Zimmerman, president of the board, previously had countered complaints with the remark that he and other board members found them "petty and unhelpful."

The parents' delegation included G. M. Painter, 164 Edgemoor Rd., Mrs. William Hough, 448 Union Ave., and John Kessler, 325 Union Ave., all parents of children attending Bala School.

Painter said, in part: "I wrote a letter complaining about this man to the school board, some time ago. I do not recall that it was ever read; nor was it treated courteously enough to give me an answer. I'd like to know whether any action is going to be taken in this matter."

Legal action was brought against Hutchinson this week by the three automobile owners, and a jury of 10 women and two men under Judge Harold G. Knight, assessed damages against Hutchinson as follows:

For repairs to Dr. Marshall's car, \$125; for repairs to Mrs. Hickman's car, \$356.25; for repairs to the Class car and the garage, \$2,781.60.

Boro Firemen Called When Wire Short Circuits

Narberth firemen were called Tuesday afternoon when an electric wire short-circuited and fell to the ground in the back yard of the George Nevrince home, at 334 Dudley Ave., Narberth.

Firemen said the wire short-circuited probably as the result of being rubbed against a tree by the wind and that resultant sparks burned through the insulation. The smoke and sparks from the burning insulation were seen by a neighbor and reported to the fire company.

Rosemont-Ithan Project, Plan to Abandon Bala Public School Postponed for Present; Building Plans Based on Studies of Population Growth, Anticipated Enrollment

Lower Merion Township School Directors Monday night approved a committee report recommending construction of a new elementary school in Penn Valley, a new junior high at a place to be designated later, and extensive alterations and additions to the senior high school in Ardmore and the Penn Wynne School.

The new building program will cost approximately two million dollars, and school directors are considering a bond issue to be submitted to the voters later to finance the program.

The report was based on a study of population trends and future pupil enrollments in the township, with a view to adjusting the public school buildings to the pupil needs in the various sections of the township.

The committee also recommended that the present Ardmore Junior High School building be incorporated into the Senior High School plant, thus providing enough high school facilities for Lower Merion's expanding population for some time to come.

According to the report there is a definite need for a Penn Valley School, inasmuch as the section is developing rapidly and the number of families with young children is increasing. By 1950, it was estimated, the proposed school will have an enrollment of 300 pupils; by 1970, more than 400, and ultimately, there will be an estimated 500.

In citing the need for an addition to the Penn Wynne School, which has a capacity of 450, it was pointed out that the present enrollment of 404 is expected to jump to 550 by 1960 and to 600 in 1970.

Teachers, Other Employees Slated To Get Raise

Instructors, Supervisors, Administrative Staff To Receive Salary Increases

Employees of the Lower Merion school district will receive raises in 1948-49 amounting to \$74,822.50.

Announcement of the increased raise scale was made Monday evening at the meeting of the Lower Merion School Board.

Announcing the policy, the Board said the matter of the way the increase is to be met has been referred to the finance committee, which will meet before the budget is passed in April. The present millage rate for Lower Merion Township school district is 18 mills. The legal limit is 20 mills, and on the basis of present real estate values it was estimated that an increase of one mill in taxes would yield \$93,600, which would cover not only the salary increases but the needed repairs and other expenditures for the school year 1948-49.

Principal increase in the new schedule will go, naturally, to teachers. This will amount to \$61,472.50. According to a state schedule, teachers' salaries must be increased \$100 yearly until they have reached one of three maximum standards: for those holding B.A. degrees and for those holding M.A. degrees. This increment has been voluntarily increased to \$150 by the school directors.

In addition, another increase of \$100 has been granted for those teachers whose salaries will not thereby be raised above the maximum prescribed by Lower Merion School District, which is substantially higher than that set by the state.

Thus, many teachers will receive as much as \$250 increase for 1948-49. A number will receive the \$150 increase, and some, who already receive the maximum set by the Township, will receive no raises.

In addition, the special salary committee recommended increases for the principals, vice-principals and the director of vocational training, amounting to \$4,500. These salaries are set by the state.

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Artist Speaks To Boro PTA

Barclay Appoints Nominating Committee

"Any one can become a craftsman, but the skill of the artist lies in the mind rather than in the hands," said George Siklar, Philadelphia sculptor and artist, at a meeting of the Narberth Parent Teachers' Association held in the school, Monday evening.

Siklar, whose work resembles that of the Japanese in the simplicity of his drawings, has spent years studying animals and holds many of his classes at the Philadelphia Zoo.

At the business meeting Samuel K. Barclay, President, announced the nominating committee for elections to be held in April. Chairman of the committee is Mrs. L. S. Brown, with Carlton Harkness, M. C. Bunting, Mrs. Richard Smith and Mrs. J. John Eidenberg on her committee.

Property Owner Sued for \$3262

Damages Caused By Fallen Tree

A huge poplar tree which fell in October, 1946, cost the owner of the property on which it had been growing \$3,262.85 this week.

The tree had been growing on the property of Harry J. Hutchinson, Jr., who had recently purchased the home at 100 Maple Ave., Narberth, and when it fell, it went over right on a garage located on the property of Robert A. Class, of 104 Maple Ave.

In the garage at the time were three automobiles belonging to Class, Dr. Roy K. Marshall, director of Fels Planetarium, and Mrs. Florence F. Hickman.

Legal action was brought against Hutchinson this week by the three automobile owners, and a jury of 10 women and two men under Judge Harold G. Knight, assessed damages against Hutchinson as follows:

For repairs to Dr. Marshall's car, \$125; for repairs to Mrs. Hickman's car, \$356.25; for repairs to the Class car and the garage, \$2,781.60.

Italian-American Club Names Chairmen

Committee chairmen were appointed at a meeting of the Narberth Italian-American Citizens Club held this week in the clubrooms, 330 Iona Ave., Narberth.

Chairmen named at the meeting are: Vincent Colletti, building fund drive; Salvatore Fratanoti, new building; Nicholas Civitello, Bryn Mawr Hospital Fund.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

DODGE TRUCK, 1/2-ton, Garden tools. Reasonable. Phone Narberth 2331.

Additional Classified Advertising on Next to Last Page

OUR TOWN IS ON SALE EACH WEEK AT THE FOLLOWING STORES: Davis Store, 224 Haverford Ave., Narberth.

Granite Drug Store, Montgomery Ave., Narberth.

Narberth News, 238 Haverford Ave., Narberth.

Trainer's, 238 Woodbine Ave., Narberth.

